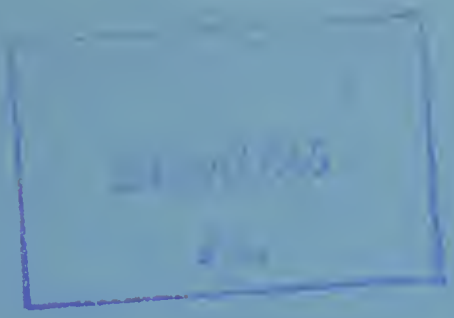


THE BLAENAVON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



THE ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

YEAR ended 31st December, 1964

BLAENAVON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT

for the year 1964.

F.J. Hallinan,
M.B.E. (Mil.), M.B.,B.CH.,B.A.O.,D.P.H.,
Area Medical Officer,
No. 7 Area, Monmouthshire.

District Medical Officer of Health,
Blaenavon Urban District.

Council Offices,
Lion Street,
Blaenavon,
Mon.

April, 1965.

BLAENAVON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Statistics Summary - 1964.

Area of district	4,613 acres
Rateable value (1.4.'64)	£133,445
Estimated product of 1d. rate (1.4.'64)	£520
Number of council-owned houses (31.12.'64)	506
Number of council houses built during 1964	Nil
Population (estimated mid 1964)	8,210
Number of live births (1964)	115
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	14.0
Number of illegitimate live births	4
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	3.5%
Number of stillbirths	4
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	33.6
Total live and stillbirths	119
Number of infant deaths (under 1 year)	3
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births - total	26.1
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births-legitimate	27.0
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births - illegitimate	Nil
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	26.0
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)	58.8
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	Nil
Number of maternal deaths (including abortion)	Nil
Number of deaths (1964)	102
Death rate per 1,000 population	12.4

Year	Births	Deaths	Natural increase
1948	173	116	+57
1949	155	137	+18
1950	150	144	+ 6
1951	123	125	- 2
1952	129	137	- 8
1953	137	129	+ 8
1954	105	112	- 7
1955	104	158	-54
1956	119	128	- 9
1957	120	122	- 2
1958	122	119	+ 3
1959	119	110	+ 9
1960	118	118	0
1961	128	134	- 6
1962	130	124	+ 6
1963	134	132	+ 2
1964	115	102	+13

BLAENAVON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman:- County Councillor R.A. Watkins, J.P.
Vice-Chairman:- County Councillor A.P. Griffiths.

Central Ward Councillors.

Councillor Miss A.M. Lewis, J.P.
County Councillor R.A. Watkins, J.P.
Councillor D.W. Puddle.
" E.C. Hutchins, J.P.
" E.J. Hobbs.
" D.J. Jones.

East Ward Councillors.

Councillor Mrs. P. Roberts, J.P.
" W. Arnold.
" G. Bailey.
" S. Banks.
" W.J. Edwards.
" W.H. Taylor.

West Ward Councillors.

Councillor Mrs. A.M. Lewis.
County Councillor A.P. Griffiths.
Councillor R.J. Morris, B.A.
" E.J. Davies, B.A.
" J. Peters.
" T. Bond.

The General Purposes Committee meet on the first Wednesday each month.

The Housing Committee meet on the third Wednesday each month.

The Finance Committee meet on the last Wednesday each month (prior to monthly meeting).

The Monthly Meeting of the Council is held on the last Wednesday in the month at 6.30 p.m.

Officers of the Council.

Clerk and Chief Financial Officer, J. Protheroe, A.I.M.T.A.

Deputy Clerk of the Council, G. Gratton, Esq.

Surveyor and Water Engineer, G.C.E. Thomas, Esq., J.P.

Deputy Surveyor and Water Engineer, C.C. Hardwick, A.M.I.Mun.E., M.R.S.H.

Medical Officer of Health, F.J. Hallinan, M.B.E. (Mil.), M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Address:- Municipal Offices,
Hanbury Road, Pontypool.

Telephone:-Pontypool 3411
(Extension 40).

Public Health Inspector, K.F. Weston, M.A.P.H.I., M.Inst.P.C.

Address:- Council Offices,
Lion Street, Blaenavon.

Telephone:- Blaenavon 258.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

TO THE

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BLAENAVON.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1964.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Blaenavon Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit for your information my Annual Public Health Report for this Urban District for the year 1964.

This report has been prepared to comply with Regulations 5 (3) and 15 (5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959, and with instructions contained in circular 1/65 (Wales) dated 11th January, 1964, from the Welsh Board of Health.

General Comment.

The year 1964 was again an uneventful one for this district from the aspect of any serious notifiable diseases. The incidence of tuberculosis in the community again remained very low and a well attended general population mass radiography survey during the year did not bring any new cases to light.

The slum clearance problem is a formidable one in this district, and while no local authority houses were built during the year, plans were well ahead with an enthusiastic programme of building which, in the near future, will produce a substantial number of houses to replace some of the unfit properties in the area. During the year 72 houses were condemned and confirmation of a clearance order involving 16 houses was awaited.

The work begun on relaying certain new water mains to replace some very old systems in 1963 was brought to completion during 1964. This was a badly needed improvement to relieve poor pressure in the mains in parts of the town. Once again reference to Table XX11 shows that the proportion of unsatisfactory bacteriological samples from our untreated sources of water supply is far too high. I must again emphasise the potential dangers to the inhabitants of the town from using inadequately treated water supplies. It is noted that the Council's consulting water engineers have been actively considering the whole problem of the town's water supply and in particular the practical aspects of installing temporary chlorination units to treat the supplies at present untreated until such time as the general problem has been resolved.

GENERAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The population estimate for the district at mid 1964 as furnished by the Registrar General was 8,210 which once again continues the yearly downward trend in population for the town as shown over the last forty years.

1921 census population - 12,469 (6,594 males and 5,875 females)
1931 census population - 11,076 (5,847 males and 5,229 females)
1951 census population - 9,779 (4,976 males and 4,803 females)
1961 census population - 8,451 (4,257 males and 4,194 females)

Estimated mid-year population since 1952.

1952	9,628		
1953	9,589	=	39 fall
1954	9,580	=	9 fall
1955	9,490	=	90 fall
1956	9,320	=	170 fall
1957	9,230	=	90 fall
1958	9,140	=	90 fall
1959	9,060	=	80 fall
1960	9,010	=	50 fall
1961	8,410	=	600 fall
1962	8,390	=	20 fall
1963	8,320	=	70 fall
1964	8,210	=	110 fall

Total drop in the mid-year population estimates since 1952 = 1,418.

Elevations above sea level.

St. Peter's Church	1,035 feet
No. 4 Reservoir	1,319 feet
Penfforddgoch	1,573 feet

Estimated populations - mid 1964 - adjacent Urban Districts.

Abergavenny M.B.	9,770	Abercarn U.D.	19,400	Abertillery U.D.	24,760
Bedwellty U.D.	27,200	Cwmbran U.D.	24,740	Ebbw Vale U.D.	28,100
Monmouth M.B.	5,820	Tredegar U.D.	19,620	Pontypool U.D.	39,000

The Blaenavon Urban District is located at the head of the Eastern Valley of Monmouthshire and is moderately well served for road transport.

Rainfall.

The district's rainfall was recorded at No. 2 Reservoir and supplied by the Council's Surveyor, G.C.E. Thomas, Esq., J.P.

January	0.97	July	2.62
February	2.97	August	1.85
March	5.48	September	1.33
April	3.74	October	4.17
May	2.66	November	3.23
June	4.48	December	8.96

Total 42.46 ins.

The district's rainfall during the past 6 years was as follows:-

1958	65.00 ins.	1961	53.79 ins.
1959	62.39 "	1962	45.05 "
1960	82.75 "	1963	58.54 "

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

TABLE 1 Showing the yearly number of live births, estimated mid-year population and birth rate per 1,000 population for this district since 1956.

Year	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Number of live births	115	134	130	128	118	119	122	120	119
Estimated mid-year population	8,210	8,320	8,390	8,410	9,010	9,060	9,140	9,230	9,320
Birth rate per 1,000 population	14.0	16.1	15.5	15.2	13.1	13.1	13.4	13.0	12.8

For the year 1964 there were 115 births (63 males and 52 females) allocated to this district which was 19 less than for the previous year. These births included 4 illegitimate births (2 males and 2 females). The birth rate per 1,000 of the population for the year was 14.0, the lowest for some years.

The natural increase for the year (i.e. excess of births over deaths) was 13.

The stillbirths for the year were 4 (1 male and 3 females) and of these 1 (a male) was illegitimate.

The local birth rate of 14.0 per 1,000 population must be multiplied by a comparability factor of 1.16 to give an adjusted birth rate of 16.2 before a comparison can be made with the national rate for the year of 18.4.

TABLE 11 — Showing the births registered in and allocated to this district for 1964 according to sex, month and quarter of occurrence, together with the inward transferable births.

	Males	Females	Total	Quarterly Births
January	1	-	1	
February	1	1	2	3
March	-	-	-	
April	-	1	1	
May	-	-	-	2
June	1	-	1	
July	3	2	5	
August	-	-	-	8
September	2	1	3	
October	-	2	2	
November	-	1	1	6
December	2	1	3	
TOTALS	10	9	19	19
Inward transferable births	53	43	96	
GRAND TOTALS for the year 1964	63	52	115	

Comparative Birth Rates - 1964.

Blaenavon Urban District	16.2 (adjusted)
Monmouthshire Administrative County	19.1 (adjusted)
England and Wales	18.4

DEATHS.

TABLE 111 Showing the yearly number of deaths, estimated mid-year population, and the death rate per 1,000 population for this district since 1956.

Year	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Number of deaths	102	132	124	134	118	110	119	122	128
Estimated mid-year population	8,210	8,320	8,390	8,410	9,010	9,060	9,140	9,230	9,320
Death-rate per 1,000 population	12.4	15.9	14.8	15.9	13.1	12.1	13.0	13.2	13.7

The deaths allocated to the district for the year totalled 102 (60 males and 42 females) which was a decrease of 30 as compared with the previous year. The crude death rate was 12.4 per 1,000 population.

These deaths are allocated to their various causes and by sex in Table V1.

Cancer of the lung and bronchus caused 4 deaths (all males) as compared with 6 deaths for the previous year.

The cancers accounted for 22 deaths (14 males and 8 females), or 22.6% of the total deaths for the year. Cancer of the lungs accounted for 18.2% of the total cancer deaths for the year.

The diseases of the heart and blood vessels numbered 42 (23 males and 19 females), or 41.2% of the total deaths.

The diseases of the respiratory system (excluding tuberculosis and lung cancer) caused 24 deaths (14 males and 10 females), or 23.5% of the total deaths.

There was no death due to childbirth, pregnancy or abortion.

There was no death due to tuberculosis.

The local crude death rate of 12.4 per 1,000 population has to be multiplied by a comparability factor of 1.05 to give an adjusted rate of 13.0 which can then be compared with the national rate of 11.3 for the year.

TABLE IV — Showing the deaths registered in and allocated to this district for 1964 according to sex, month and quarter of occurrence together with inward transferable deaths.

Month	Males	Females	Total	Quarterly Deaths
January	10	4	14	
February	8	6	14	34
March	3	3	6	
April	2	2	4	
May	2	1	3	15
June	5	3	8	
July	3	2	5	
August	1	3	4	14
September	2	3	5	
October	2	-	2	
November	4	2	6	14
December	3	3	6	
TOTALS	45	32	77	77
Inward transferable deaths	15	10	25	
GRAND TOTALS for the year 1964	60	42	102	

Comparative Death Rates - 1964.

Blaenavon Urban District	13.0 (adjusted)
Monmouthshire Administrative County	13.0 (adjusted)
England and Wales	11.3

TABLE V — Showing the deaths registered in and allocated to this district for 1964 in quinquennial age groups and by sex.

Age last birthday	Males	Females	Total
0 - 4	2	1	3
5 - 9	-	-	-
10 - 14	-	-	-
15 - 19	-	-	-
20 - 24	-	-	-
25 - 29	1	-	1
30 - 34	-	-	-
35 - 39	1	-	1
40 - 44	1	1	2
45 - 49	3	-	3
50 - 54	1	2	3
55 - 59	6	2	8
60 - 64	8	2	10
65 - 69	9	8	17
70 - 74	12	12	24
75 - 79	10	4	14
80 - 84	4	5	9
85 - 89	2	4	6
90 - 94	-	1	1
95 and over	-	-	-
All ages	60	42	102

From the above table it is seen that 71 persons (37 males and 34 females) reached the age of 65 years at death, or 69.6% of the total deaths.

There were 30 persons (16 males and 14 females) who attained the age of 75 years at death, or 29.4% of the total deaths.

There were 7 persons (2 males and 5 females) who attained the age of 85 years at death, or 6.9% of the total deaths.

TABLE VI — Showing the deaths from all causes, infant deaths, births and stillbirths allocated to this district for 1964.

	Causes of death	Male	Female
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	1	-
4.	Diphtheria	-	-
5.	Whooping cough	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	-	-
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
8.	Measles	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	3
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	4	-
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	5	3
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-
16.	Diabetes	1	2
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	7	5
18.	Coronary disease, angina	11	5
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	1	1
20.	Other heart disease	3	4
21.	Other circulatory disease	1	4
22.	Influenza	-	-
23.	Pneumonia	3	2
24.	Bronchitis	9	8
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	2	-
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	-	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	2
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	-	-
34.	All other accidents	2	-
35.	Suicide	-	-
36.	Homicide and operations of war	-	-
	TOTAL ALL CAUSES	60	42
	Deaths in infants under 1 year of age:-		
	Legitimate	2	1
	Illegitimate	-	-
	Total	2	1
	Total births	63	52
	Legitimate	61	50
	Illegitimate	2	2
	Stillbirths - Total	1	3
	Legitimate	-	3
	Illegitimate	1	-

Estimated population - mid 1964 = 8,210
(for calculation of birth and death rates).

Comparability factors: Births 1.16 Deaths 1.05

TABLE V11 Showing the number of inquests on persons belonging to this district during 1964 and the causes of death.

Cause of death	Male	Female	Total
Accidental barbiturate and alcoholic poisoning	1	-	1
Colliery accident	1	-	1
Broncho pneumonia and pneumoconiosis	1	-	1

The poisoning case referred to a male aged 65 years, while the colliery accident involved a male aged 35 years and the third case referred to a male aged 84 years.

INFANT MORTALITY.

TABLE V111 — Showing the yearly number of infant deaths, live births, etc., for this district since 1956.

Year	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Number of deaths in infants under 1 year.	3	2	5	2	4	10	5	4	2
Number of live births	115	134	130	128	118	119	122	120	119
Infant mortality rate	26.1	14.9	38.5	15.6	33.9	84.0	41.0	33.3	16.8

There were three infant deaths recorded during the year (2 males and 1 female) and all occurred in hospitals.

This figure compares well with the number of infant deaths in recent years in the district.

TABLE 1X — Showing the infant deaths assigned to the district for 1964 by cause and in age groups.

Cause of death	Under 1 wk.	1-2 wks.	2-3 wks.	3-4 wks.	Total under 1 mth.	1-3 mths.	3-6 mths.	6-9 mths.	9-12 mths.	Total under 1 yr.
Prematurity	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Congenital malformations	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Congenital heart disease	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
All causes	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3

TABLE X — Showing the infant mortality rate for England and Wales, etc., from 1955 to 1964.

Year	England and Wales	Monmouthshire	Blaenavon Urban District
1955	24.9	33.9	57.7
1956	23.7	29.0	16.8
1957	23.1	31.0	33.3
1958	22.6	25.8	41.0
1959	22.2	27.2	84.0
1960	21.9	25.5	33.9
1961	21.6	28.0	15.6
1962	21.6	25.0	38.5
1963	21.1	25.6	14.9
1964	20.0	28.6	26.1

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The number of notifications of notifiable diseases received from general practitioners, hospital medical officers and chest physicians during the year are shown in age and sex groups in Tables X1V and XV1.

Diphtheria.

This is the fifteenth consecutive year for which no notification of diphtheria has been received, but despite this good record the need for the maintenance of a high level of immunisation amongst children cannot be too strongly stressed if this happy state is to continue.

TABLE X1 Showing the number of immunisations against diphtheria carried out in this district during 1964.

Children born in years:-	Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation in the Authority's area during the year ended 31.12.'64.	Number of children who received a secondary (reinforcing injection) during the year ended 31.12.'64.	TOTAL
1964	29	-	29
1963	52	14	66
1962	12	39	51
1961	4	5	9
1960	1	4	5
1955 - 1959	2	16	18
1950 - 1954	-	1	1
TOTAL	100	79	179

The acceptance rate for immunisation was slightly down on the previous year for which there is no obvious explanation.

TABLE X11 Number of children who have completed a primary course (normally 3 injections) of pertussis vaccine (singly or in combination) in the Authority's area during the year ended 31.12.'64.

Year of birth	Number of children
1964	29
1963	52
1962	6
1961	2
1960	-
1955 - 1959	-
1950 - 1954	-
TOTAL	89

TABLE X111 Showing the number of vaccinations against smallpox carried out in the Authority's area during 1964.

Age at date of vaccination	1 Number of persons vaccinated (or re-vaccinated during period)		11 Number of cases specially reported during period.		
	Number vaccinated	Number re-vaccinated	Generalised vaccinia	Post-vaccinal encephalo-myelitis	Deaths from complications of vaccination other than (a) or (b)
0 - 3 months	-	-	-	-	-
3 - 6 months	-	-	-	-	-
6 - 9 months	-	-	-	-	-
9 - 12 months	-	-	-	-	-
1 year	17	-	-	-	-
2 - 4 years	1	-	-	-	-
5 - 14 years	-	-	-	-	-
15 or over	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	18	-	-	-	-

There was a two-fold increase in the number of vaccinations over the previous year.

TABLE X1V

Showing the notifiable diseases notified in this district during 1964, analysed in age and sex groups and giving the admissions to hospital. (corrected for diagnosis). (Tuberculosis excluded).

	Under 1 yr.		1-2 yrs.		2-3 yrs.		3-4 yrs.		4-5 yrs.		5-10 yrs.		10-15 yrs.		15-25 yrs.		25-35 yrs.		35-45 yrs.		45-65 yrs.		65 + yrs.		ALL AGES			Cases admitted to hospital.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	T.	
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	2	1	5	3	3	4	7	8	1	2	3	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	28	49	-
Scarlet fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ac. primary and influenzal pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis: Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anthrax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	2	1	5	3	3	4	7	8	1	2	3	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	28	49	-

TABLE XV Showing the number of cases of notifiable diseases notified yearly since 1950 (corrected for diagnosis). Tuberculosis excluded.

DISEASE	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	49	90	-	95	-	1	4	290	3	5	-	58	35	236	1
Scarlet Fever	-	-	2	2	-	-	1	2	-	1	-	-	1	6	9
Whooping cough	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	1	9	-	-	3	22	2	2
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ac. primary and influenzal pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	3	2	4	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	5	2	8
Food poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis: Paralytic	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anthrax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

The Chest Clinic facilities for this district are provided at the Park Buildings, Pontypool, which is a convenient centre. The clinic is open all day on Tuesdays and Thursdays each week and there are also facilities for X rays at Blaenavon Hospital which the Chest Physician visits as and when required.

There was no death in the district assigned to any form of tuberculosis during 1964. There was only one notification of tuberculosis during the year and this case came to light as the result of a visit from a mobile mass radiography unit to a local factory. The downward trend in the incidence of tuberculosis in the district during recent years is being satisfactorily maintained.

The usual detailed enviromental enquiries continue to be made personally by the Medical Officer of Health on notification of each case of tuberculosis and the necessary information submitted to the Chest Physician to enable contacts to be expeditiously checked.

During the year arrangements were made for a general population survey by a mobile unit of the mass radiography service and the sessions were well attended. The details of this survey are given in Tables XX and XX1. A total of 993 persons (507 males and 486 females) attended. There was also a visit by a mobile unit to a local factory during the year when 55 persons (9 males and 46 females) attended.

A static mass radiography unit continues to be located at the Chest Clinic at 129, Stow Hill, Newport, and is open daily from Monday to Friday (9.0 a.m. to 1.0 p.m. and 2.0 p.m. to 5.0 p.m.) with an evening session on Thursdays from 5.30 p.m. to 7.0 p.m.

TABLE XV1 Showing the new cases of tuberculosis notified and the deaths due to tuberculosis during 1964 in age and sex groups and by type of disease. (Corrected for diagnosis).

Age groups in yrs.	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 +	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-

There were no inward transfers during the year of persons who had already been notified in other areas. No cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified.

The death rates for tuberculosis for this district for 1964 were as follows:-

(Rates for 1963 in parenthesis)

(a) Tuberculosis (all forms) - Nil per 1,000 population (.12).
(b) Pulmonary tuberculosis - Nil per 1,000 population (.12).
(c) Non-pulmonary tuberculosis-Nil per 1,000 population (Nil).

TABLE XV11 Showing the number of cases of tuberculosis remaining on the register at 31.12.'64.

Males		Females		TOTAL
Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	
35	30	1	3	69

Respiratory tuberculosis and lung cancer death rates for England and Wales - 1964.

The provisional death rate per million population for England and Wales for 1964 for respiratory tuberculosis was 47, being a further decrease in mortality for this disease over the previous year (56 in 1963).

During 1964 the death rate for cancer of the lung and bronchus per million population was 535 (519 in 1963), which shows a further serious increase in deaths from this disease. In actual figures this means 25,371 deaths from cancer of the lungs and bronchus and 2,208 deaths from respiratory tuberculosis as compared with 24,422 and 2,613 deaths respectively for 1963.

TABLE XVIII

Showing the yearly notifications of tuberculosis (all forms) for males and females, and the yearly deaths from all forms of tuberculosis since 1943 (corrected for diagnosis).

YEAR	Yearly notifications of tuberculosis				Total yearly notifications of pulmonary & non-pulmonary	Yearly deaths from tuberculosis				Total of yearly deaths from all forms of tuberculosis
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		
	Males	Females	Males	Females		Males	Females	Males	Females	
1943	8	13	3	1	25	1	6	1	-	8
1944	8	17	1	3	29	3	3	1	1	8
1945	7	8	1	1	17	-	4	1	3	8
1946	10	7	5	-	22	1	4	1	1	7
1947	6	9	2	-	17	3	6	3	2	14
1948	9	6	-	1	16	3	5	1	-	9
1949	8	8	1	-	17	1	2	-	-	3
1950	2	3	2	-	7	4	-	-	-	4
1951	5	3	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-
1952	3	3	1	-	12	1	2	-	-	3
1953	2	6	1	1	10	1	-	-	-	1
1954	1	2	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
1955	-	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-
1956	2	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
1957	2	1	-	1	4	1	-	-	-	1
1958	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
1959	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
1960	3	1	-	-	4	2	-	-	-	2
1961	5	-	-	-	5	1	-	-	-	1
1962	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
1963	1	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	1
1964	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE XIX Showing the notification rates and death rates for tuberculosis per 1,000 of the estimated mid-year population for this district since 1938.

Year	Notification rates per 1,000 population.		Death rates per 1,000 population.	
	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary
1938	2.93	.30	.51	.00
1939	3.02	.68	.59	.00
1940	2.11	.48	.67	.10
1941	2.62	.09	.47	.00
1942	1.00	.40	.79	.10
1943	2.14	.41	.71	.10
1944	2.54	.41	.61	.21
1945	1.55	.21	.50	.50
1946	1.74	.51	.51	.20
1947	1.54	.20	.92	.51
1948	1.51	.20	.81	.10
1949	1.61	.10	.30	.00
1950	.50	.20	.40	.00
1951	.82	.00	.00	.00
1952	1.14	.10	.31	.00
1953	.83	.21	.10	.00
1954	.31	.00	.00	.00
1955	.52	.00	.00	.00
1956	.32	.00	.00	.00
1957	.33	.11	.11	.00
1958	.33	.00	.00	.00
1959	.22	.00	.00	.00
1960	.44	.00	.22	.00
1961	.59	.00	.12	.00
1962	.12	.00	.00	.00
1963	.24	.00	.12	.00
1964	.12	.00	.00	.00

MISCELLANEOUS.

The County Weights and Measures Officer, R.J. Bullen, Esq., reports that a total of 38 samples (18 milk, 1 ice-cream, 17 other foods and 2 beers) were collected in this district during the year and submitted to the Public Analyst who reported that they were all genuine with the exception of the following:-

Mineral Water containing Paraffin.

A housewife complained to the Department that she had purchased a bottle of mineral water containing paraffin. Her son had consumed a quantity and later complained of a burning sensation in his mouth and sickness. The Public Analyst confirmed the presence of paraffin and proceedings were taken against the bottlers. Fined £5.

Public Swimming Baths.

The swimming bath in the district is controlled by the Council and is provided with up-to-date purification plant. Samples of the water taken during the season were satisfactory.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

It was not necessary to have recourse to section 47 of this Act during the year to secure compulsory removal of any person in need of care and attention.

Registered Common Lodging Houses.

The district has no common lodging house.

Water Supplies.

The results shown in Table XX11 of bacteriological sampling for untreated water supplies are, as usual, generally very unsatisfactory and indicate the presence of a potential danger to the town's inhabitants. It must be realised that the practice of serving centres of population with inadequately treated water supplies belongs rightly to the past. The quantity of water available is not adequate to give the town an unrestricted supply during dry summers.

Local Government Superannuation Act 1937 to 1953.

During the year 15 medical examinations were carried out on persons taking up employment with the Council. Two medical examinations were carried out in respect of "break-down" pensions.

General Population Mass Radiography Survey - 1964.

Arrangements were made for a visit from a unit of the Mass Radiography Service for five days in June when the response was excellent and the weather conditions very favourable. The previous general population Survey was carried out in June, 1961.

TABLE XX Showing details of Mass Radiographic Survey carried out at Blaenavon amongst the general population in June, 1964.

ANALYSIS IN AGE GROUPS.

	GRAND TOTAL	Under 15		15-24		25-34		35-44		45-59		60 & Over		TOTALS	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Total number examined.	993	10	11	67	86	72	78	91	101	165	145	102	65	507	486
Number found to be abnormal. (a & b)	57 or 5.74%	-	-	-	-	1	1	5	4	16	1	25	4	47	10
Classification of abnormal cases:- (a) Requiring further observation.	1 or .10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
(b) Other abnormalities of the chest	56 or 5.64%	-	-	-	-	1	1	5	4	15	1	25	4	46	10

ABLE XX1 Showing analysis of other abnormalities of the chest not requiring further observation during the mass radiographic survey carried out at Blaenavon, amongst the general population in June, 1964.

o.	Classification of abnormality		Male	Female	Total
.	TUBERCULOUS ABNORMALITIES				
0 & 1	Tuberculosis (known cases under Chest Clinic supervision prior to Mass Radiography examination).		-	-	-
2	Healed Primary Tuberculosis		-	1	1
3	Healed Post-Primary Tuberculosis		2	5	7
.	NON-TUBERCULOUS ABNORMALITIES				
1	Abnormality of the bony thorax and soft tissues		-	-	-
2	Malignant Neoplasm		-	-	-
3	Non-Malignant Neoplasm		-	-	-
4	Lymphadenopathies, excluding sarcoidosis		-	-	-
5	Sarcoids (including enlarged hilar glands)		-	-	-
6	Congenital cardiac abnormalities and abnormalities of the vascular system		-	-	-
7	Acquired cardiac abnormalities and abnormalities of the vascular system		-	2	2
8	Pneumoconiosis: without P.M.F.	Stage 1	-	-	-
		Stage 2	39	-	39
		Stage 3	2	-	2
		Stage not known	-	-	-
9	Pneumoconiosis: with P.M.F.		-	-	-
10	Pulmonary fibrosis - non-tuberculous to include asthma, bronchitis)		1	1	2
11	Emphysema		1	-	1
12	Bronchiectasis		-	-	-
13	Bacterial virus and other infection of the lungs		-	-	-
14	Pleural thickening or calcification		1	-	1
15	Abnormalities of the diaphragm and oesophagus		-	1	1
16	Malformation of the lungs (to include lobar malformation and honeycomb lung)		-	-	-
17	Spontaneous pneumothorax		-	-	-
18	Miscellaneous		-	-	-
	TOTALS		46	10	56

TABLE XX11 Showing the results of bacteriological sampling on the non-chlorinated piped water supplies in the district during 1964. The results are classidied in accordance with memorandum No. 3 of the Public Health Laboratory Service (revised 1957) and prepared by the P.H.L.A. water sub-committee as a synopsis and simplification of the Ministry of Health Report No. 71 (1956).

Source of supply	Form of treatment	Class 1 Excellent	Class 11 Satisfactory	Class 111 Suspicious	Class 1V Unsatisfactory	Total Samples
Numbers 2 and 3 Reservoirs	Slow sand filtration	11	-	1	1	13
Edmund's Tank Area of supply restricted	None	3	2	1	5	11
Forgeside Reservoir	Pressure filtration	5	1	1	6	13
ALL SOURCES		19	3	3	12	37

Standard for non-chlorinated supplies.

		Coliform Count per 100 ml.	Bact. Coli 1* Count per 100 ml.
Class 1	Excellent	0	0
Class 11	Satisfactory	1 - 3	0
Class 111	Suspicious	4 - 10	0
Class 1V	Unsatisfactory	Greater than 10	0

* The present of Bact. Coli 1 immediately places the sample in Class 1V.

In addition to the above samples 12 were taken from the chlorinated supply to the district from the Abertillery Water Board and all of these except 2 satisfied the standard laid down for chlorinated water supplies. 13 samples were also taken from Bunkers Tank (chlorinated) of which 2 did not quite satisfy the recommended standard.

Inspection of Food and Food Premises, etc.

Fresh Meat.

All supplies of fresh meat are imported into the District as there is no public or private slaughterhouse in operation in the town. These supplies appear to be adequate to meet the town's needs and there is no evidence to suggest that a slaughterhouse is required in view of this fact.

Milk Supply.

There is no pasteurising plant in the town and the milk supply comes from plants at Pontypool and Marshfield.

During the year 21 samples of milk were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Newport, for analysis and all except 1 reported on as reaching the prescribed standard. No samples were examined for brucella abortus as no raw milk is sold in the town.

Inspection of food shops.

Food shops in the district were periodically inspected during the year to ensure compliance with the food hygiene regulations, and notices served when such was not the case.

Grocery and provisions	37
Confectionery, ice-cream, milk	12
Greengrocery, fishmongery	7
Butchers' shops	9
Fried fish shops	2
Licensed victuallers	21
Clubs	9

Premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. (Section 16).

There are 30 premises registered under the above Act.

HOUSING.

Return for the year ending 31.12.'64.

(a)	Number of dwelling houses demolished (clearance areas)	-
(b)	Number of dwelling houses demolished (not in clearance areas) as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17 (1) of the Housing Act, 1957.	32
(c)	Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health during the year.	-
(d)	Unfit houses closed under Section 17 (1) of the Housing Act, 1957.	47
(e)	Housing repairs.	
	(i) Houses in which defects were remedied after informal notice.	33
	(ii) Houses in which defects were remedied after formal notice.	2
	(iii) Houses in which defects were remedied after formal notice under the Housing Act, 1957.	-

General Housing Details.

(1)	Number of post-war Council houses completed 31.12.'64.	266
(2)	Number of Council houses completed during 1964.	-
(3)	Number of houses completed during 1964 by private enterprise.	8
(4)	Number of Council houses under construction at 31.12.'64.	-
(5)	Number of houses under construction by private enterprise at 31.12.'64.	5
(6)	Number of houses owned by the Local Authority at 31.12.'64.	
	Temporary - 50. Permanent - 456.	506
(7)	Number of applications received for certificates of disrepair under the Rent Act, 1957, during the year 1964.	-
(8)	Number of certificates of disrepair issued during 1964.	-
(9)	Number of houses condemned during the year (demolition and closing orders).	72
(10)	Number of individual unfit properties represented during the year.	45
(11)	Number of clearance areas represented during the year.	1
(12)	Number of unfit properties included in this clearance area.	16
(13)	Number of condemned properties still occupied at the end of the year.	99
(14)	Number of clearance orders confirmed during the year.	1
(15)	Number of properties in the confirmed clearance order.	25

TABLE XX111 Showing slum clearance progress, rehousing from unfit houses, etc. since 1959.

Year	No. of unfit houses represented yearly	No. of houses in col. (2) which were vacant when represented	No. of unfit houses condemned yearly	No. of rehousings from condemned houses yearly	No. of Council houses built each year
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1959	58	1	33	-	-
1960	32	2	34	6	6
1961	2	1	25	66	66
1962	1	-	1	1	-
1963	38	4	11	2	-
1964	61	3	72	1	-
1959 to 1964	192	11	176	76	72

Confirmation of the Blaenavon (Shepherd Square) Clearance Order No. 3 was awaited at the end of the year which involved 16 houses. No objections to the making of a clearance order had been submitted by owners to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

HOUSING ACT, 1949.

Improvement Grants under the above Act.

(a) Number of improvement grants, 1964	-	13
(b) Total number of improvement grants 1949-1964	-	141
(c) Amount of improvement grants, 1964	-	£3,708.18.0d
(d) Total amount of improvement grants, 1949-1964 (inclusive)	-	£32,905.12.1d

Improvement Loans under the above Act.

(a) Number of improvement loans, 1964	-	3
(b) Total number of improvement loans, 1949-1964	-	3
(c) Amount of improvement loans, 1964	-	£1,010. 0.0d
(d) Total amount of improvement loans, 1949-1964 (inclusive)	-	£1,010 0.0d

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959.

The following tables show the number and type of factories in the district id the inspections carried out during 1964 in connection with the above Acts.

ABLE XX1V Showing the number of factories and the inspections thereof for 1964.

remises	Number of			
	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authority.	3	5	-	-
2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	28	28	-	-
3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	31	28	-	-

ABLE XXV Showing the defects found in factories and the action taken to remedy them during the year.

articulars	Number of defects.				
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Insp.	Referred by H.M. Insp.	Number of Prosecutions
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient.	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work).	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE XXV1 Showing details of out-workers for 1964 (Sections 133 and 134).

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 133(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prose-cutions for failure to supply lists	No. of in-stances of work in un-whole-some premises	Notices served	Prose cutic
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing apparel making etc. Cleaning and washing.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Household linen lace, lace curtains and nets.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Curtains and furniture hangings.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Furniture and upholstery.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Electro-plate.	-	-	-	-	-	-
File making.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brass and brass articles.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fur pulling.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron and steel cables and chains.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron and steel anchors and grapnels.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cart gear.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Locks, latches and keys.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Umbrellas, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Artificial flowers.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nets other than wire nets.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tents.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sacks.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Racquet and tennis balls.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paper bags.	-	-	-	-	-	-
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brush making.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pea picking.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Feather sorting.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carding etc. of buttons etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stuffed toys.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Basket making.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chocolates and sweetmeats.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cosaques, christmas stockings etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Textile weaving.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lampshades.	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-	-

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Report for the year ending 31st December, 1964.

	Local Authority (1)	Dwelling Houses (2)	All others including Business Premises (3)	Total Cols. 1,2,3.	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's district	35	2,737	239	3,011	6
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of					
(a) notification	1	122	6	129	-
(b) survey under the Act	-	-	-	-	-
(c) otherwise	-	2	2	4	-
3. Total inspections carried out (including re-inspections)	1	124	8	133	1
4. Number of properties inspected (in Sec. 2) found to be infested by:					
Rats - Major	-	-	-	-	-
Minor	1	98	6	105	1
Mice - Major	-	-	-	-	-
Minor	-	26	2	28	-
5. Number of infested properties (in Sec. 4) treated by L.A.	1	124	8	133	1
6. No. of notices served under Section 4 of the Act (a) T					
(a) Treatment	-	-	-	-	-
Structural works i.e. proofing	-	-	-	-	-
7. No. of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act.	-	-	-	-	-
8. Legal proceedings.	-	-	-	-	-
9. Number of block control schemes carried out.	-	-	-	-	-

I wish to thank all departments for their co-operation during the year and especially so the Public Health Inspector, K.F. Weston, Esq., who has done such excellent work over the past year. Mr. Weston is to be congratulated on obtaining the diploma of the Institute of Public Cleansing during the year.

Yours obediently,

Medical Officer of Health.